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Message:

Attached doc is about broad strategy and a wider view that influences all areas of the 2040 plan but is not being addressed at all adequately in it. The need for limits to growth, & C.C. mitigation.

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This e-mail was sent from a contact form on National Planning Framework (<http://npf.ie>)

1. In addressing future change, Ireland will continue on a path of economic, environmental and social progress that will improve our prosperity, sustainability and well-being.

In order for this high level objective to be met it will be necessary for us as it is for all other inhabitant of earth to have a deeper understanding of ecology and carrying capacity limits. This is not an argument for population control but rather planning for what way the population lives within available resources.

Ireland like most countries has pushed itself into a globalized economy. This has lead to global over consumption and the resulting feedback from the planet's ecology and climate systems. Mass species loss and climate change being the most pressing of these feedbacks, but there are others deforestation, desertification, still rising pollution levels. In addition we are past some peak consumption of resources, such as fossil fuels and some metals, and nearing peaks in others. The most pressing of these are peak soil and peak fresh water.

It is not surprising that the plan does not take these verifiable facts into consideration as they demand a radical world view and human designed systems change and few governments in the world are facing such radical change head on. (Iceland, Cuba, the Maldives, Timor Leste and the Republic of Butan being some of the exceptions). Of note is that these nations like Ireland are either islands or cut off by mountain ranges from easy access to resources and have a more innate sense of limits.

I believe that all areas of the plan need to be reconsidered in the light of the above facts and that inspiration for actions that need to be taken to truly address future change considered more deeply and radically. These would include transitions to de-growth not planning for more resource extraction and a transition away from global to more local economic models for core areas of need (food and shelter) being produced from Irish based resources.

Irish Local Food Systems need supports and easier to navigate legislation to help them to compete with the Global focused commodities food production market that drives profits away from producers.

Individual housing (including Tiny Homes the need is there for smaller affordable houses) Material selection is a key issue in sustainable design.

Materials selection should be guided by :

- the use of natural materials from renewable sources.
- the specification of manufactured material with low embedded energy and carbon rates.
- the avoidance of harmful components or processes in the manufacture or harvesting of materials.
- sourcing materials within the shortest geographical range.
- avoiding excessive waste during construction

Irish home should be from local materials stone, timber, cob, recycled waste resources, tires, pallets etc, could be given support and prioritized as transition systems.